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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/577,678	04/28/2006	Leena Lehtinen	OUTT 3463	8503

7812 7590 10/08/2009

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EXAMINER	
WALCK, BRIAN D	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1793	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
10/08/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 9/29/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's argument regarding the amendments to overcome objections and indefiniteness are moot as the amendment's will not be entered as they were not contained in the finally rejected claims.

Applicant argues that Owusu does not provide support for the specific ion-exchange of Lindoy be used for copper removal. This is not found persuasive because Owusu is relied upon for the general disclosure that ion-exchange is an alternative to zinc cementation.

Applicant argues that Lindoy does not disclose an ion-exchanger that has selectivity for copper over zinc. This is not found persuasive because the table of Example 3 clearly shows that the ion-exchanger is more selective for copper than zinc.

Applicant argues that Lindoy cannot be combined with Stewart because Lindoy does not explicitly disclose the removal of copper from zinc sulfate. This is not found persuasive because Lindoy teaches that the ion exchanger can be used for removing copper and Owusu discloses that ion-exchangers can be used to remove copper from a zinc sulfate solution.

Applicant argues that Wolf can not be relied upon because Wolf does not teach removal of copper from zinc sulfate solution. This is not found persuasive because Wolf

is relied upon for the general teaching that an ion exchanger can be pretreated with the solution to be treated to keep the ion exchanger free from contaminants.

Applicant argues that Pike can not be relied upon because Pike does not teach removal of copper from a zinc sulfate solution. This is not found persuasive because Pike is relevant in that it teaches removal of copper using a chelating ion exchnager.

Applicant argues that Bodson does not teach a bleed from the raw solution. This is not found persuasive because Bodson shows in figure 1 that part of the raw solution of Bodson is routed to cuprous oxide precipitation, where the copper in the solution is made to react with zinc powder to form cuprous oxide.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Walck whose telephone number is (571)270-5905. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9 AM-6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Roy King can be reached on (571)272-1244. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Roy King/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1793

/Brian Walck/
Examiner, Art Unit 1793